Numb. 385.

THE Pennſylvania GAZETTE.

Containing the freſheſt Advices Foreign and Domeſtick.

From April 15. to April 22. 1736.

From the London Journal, Octob. 18. 1735.

A Diſcourſe *on the preſent Happy State of* Great Britain *in reſpect to the reſt of* Europe, *and to the Condition of the Inhabitants of this Iſland in former Times.*

IT is a Folly often imputed by judicious Writers to Men of weak Minds, That they entertain higher Ideas of other Countries, and other Times, than their own, and never can be brought to have a juſt Opinion of the Place and Age in which Providence has ſet them. If, like ſome other Writers, I were fond of ſhewing my Learning, a Quotation or two from *Horace* or *Juvenal* might eaſily be drawn in here; but as I write not to amuſe, but to inſtruct, both myſelf and others, by freely enquiring after Truth, I chuſe to refer myſelf in reſpect to the Fitneſs of my Remark to the Notoriety of the Fact: How often do we hear the Wiſdom of the *Dutch*, the Freedom of the *Poles*, and the Happineſs of the *Ancient Britons*, magnified at the Expence of the preſent Generation? as if we enjoyed fewer Bleſſings than our Neighbours, and were leſs at Eaſe than our Anceſtors.

To ſay the Truth, there is nothing ſurprizing in this; for, if we reflect how few Individuals are ſatisfied with the Station in which God has placed them, we need not wonder that the Aggregate of their Complaints is vented in a general Diſlike of what happens in their own Time; but, at the ſame time we obſerve this, we ought to allow that their Cavils againſt the Age, are as irrational as their repining at their particular Lots, and arraigning infinite Wiſdom for not diſpoſing of them better.

Theſe Reflections premiſed, I hope it will be eſteemed no ill Office to my Countrymen, if I preſume to ſet before them that Felicity which, as *Britons* they enjoy, or, at leaſt, may enjoy, if they pleaſe; and if I endeavour to make it appear that neither our Neighbours, nor our Fore fathers, ought on any Score to be the Object of our Envy; ſince there is nothing which we can juſtly eſteem favourable to them, out of our Reach; and no Evils ſo far bound down upon us, as that, with a ſmall Degree of Pains and Virtue, we may not be able to remove: If in ſtating theſe Matters I act candidly and fairly, no body will deny that I render the Publick a good Office; and if, either through Ignorance, or Partiality, I ſhould miſrepreſent the State of our Affairs, there are enough gloomy-minded Writers who will be ready to lay hold of my Miſtakes, and to convince the Good People of *England* they are ſuffering under great Miſfortunes,--- though, perhaps, they do not feel them.

The firſt Mark of General Felicity which I ſhall inſiſt on, is *Tranquility*; which can never ſubſiſt in any Country, where either Tyrannick Power is exerciſed, or Corruption grown to any great Height; for, in the firſt Caſe, Mens Liberties and Properties are expoſed to continual Dangers; whence it follows that their Minds cannot enjoy Peace; and, on the other hand, Juſtice is never duly and ſtrictly adminiſtred, becauſe when once a People grow venal, the Fountains of Equity are immediately polluted, and it is Madneſs to expect righteous Deciſions from unrighteous Men: But is it not

not evident, beyond the Power of Envy itſelf to contradict, That we are at this Time more fully poſſeſſed of Freedom, and of all the Privileges which we can reaſonably or legally claim, than either we have been at any Time heretofore, or than any other People in *Europe* enjoy at this Day: Does any Man dread the Power of another, if he has no lawful Cauſe of Complaint againſt him? Is any Man afraid of applying to the Publick Courts of Judicature? Or can he dread any Impediment which may be thrown in his Way in ſeeking Juſtice? Who at this Time is cautious of diſcloſing his religious Sentiments for fear of ſuffering in his Perſon or Fortune? Or, who declines talking of Political Affairs from the Terror of Informers, and the Severity of an uneaſy Adminiſtration? Do we not daily ſee convincing Marks of publick Tranquility, in the regular Progreſſion of Civil Affairs? Or, rather, is the Peace of the Publick ever interrupted by the Terror of extraordinary Acts of Power, or the Claims of a Prerogative ready to over-run the known Laws of the Land?

The ſecond Mark of Publick Happineſs I ſhall inſiſt on, is, *Plenty*; which, though it be in a great meaſure owing to the immediate Providence of God, in ſending us happy Seaſons, and large Harveſts, Bleſſings never more amply diffuſed than in our Days; yet it is in part owing to a free Trade, and an extenſive Commerce: Where theſe are wanting, we ſee Nations frequently in Diſtreſs, and we ſee no Nation in this reſpect farther removed from it than ourſelves. Our Navies viſit the moſt diſtant Countries, and bring us whatever is valuable in them, in return for what our Induſtry produces at Home. And though it muſt be allowed that former Ages have enjoyed this Bleſſing as well as we, yet it muſt likewiſe be acknowledged that they never enjoyed it in ſo extenſive a Degree; our Exports being far larger, and our Shipping much more numerous at this Day than even at the Peace of *Utrecht*, notwithſtanding the Noiſe that has been made about the Decay of Trade, and growing Poverty of the Kingdom, which thoſe who made them would fain juſtify from the Increaſe of our Expence, though, for ought they have or can ſhew, this might flow from the Increaſe of our Wealth.

The third, and laſt Characteriſtick of National Glory, is the Reſpect paid by Foreigners; in which Point, as well as in the reſt, *Britain* excells her Neighbours, and ſhines in a Light ſuperior to any ſhe has ſtood in before the preſent Time; for on the one hand, are we not ſollicited as the laſt Hope and Refuge of one of the contending Powers? and are we not dreaded by the reſt of the potent Princes engaged in the War now carrying on? Are not Memorials, Appeals, and Remonſtrances, daily addreſſed to his Majeſty, as if the Power of the *Britiſh* Nation had made him the ſole Arbiter of *Europe*, and that our declaring one Way or other, would put an End to the preſent fluctuating State of Things? At the ſame time that we take a View of this pleaſing Proſpect, let us remember with what Wiſdom, Decency, and Mildneſs, this great Authority has been uſed: We have not been plunged into unneceſſary Wars, merely to ſhew the Greatneſs of our Force; nor have the higheſt ſtrained Compliments been able to prevent our ſhewing a proper Regard for our Allies, when their Intereſts have really been in Danger. Thus we may have the Pleaſure of contemplating at once the Glory at which our Country is arrived, and the juſt, equitable Methods whereby it has been acquired and preſerved: And, when we may have this Pleaſure, I would fain know for what juſt Reaſon we ought to turn away our Eyes from ſuch a Proſpect?

If the Dictates of Reaſon, and the Precepts of Religion, oblige Men, as Men, to conſider attentively whatever may induce them to be content, and live ſatisfied with what the divine Wiſdom has beſtowed upon them, I cannot, for my part, comprehend why this ſhould not be a Rule alſo in reſpect to Man, as a Member of Society: Publick Calamities certainly affect us as deeply as private Misfortunes, and in conſequence of our Sorrow, on ſuch Accounts, we are wont, in a ſolemn and national Way, to addreſs our Prayers to Heaven for Protection and Relief; ſhall we then be inſenſible of Bleſſings, when ſhowered down by Heaven! and ſhall we, without the Imputation of Impiety, not only diſregard the Divine Favours, but vilify and deny them? Shall we ſay that Peace is not Peace, or that there is no Happineſs conſequent from Peace, becauſe we enjoy it? Shall we murmur at Plenty, & profanely ſtile it the Hand-Maid of Luxury? Shall we endeavour to tarniſh the Luſtre of our own Glory, and to ſink the Credit of the *Britiſh* Nation in the Eyes of Foreigners, merely becauſe we are not Friends to an Adminiſtration by whom (under God) all theſe good

Things

Things have been procured and preſerved? Surely, ſuch a Behaviour will appear abſurd and ungrateful towards God and Man, and incline every impartial Perſon either to detect the Falſity of the foregoing Account of our Affairs, or to agree with me in acknowledging that we ought to be highly thankful for the State we are in, and concur, as far as it is in our Power, to ſupport ſuch Meaſures as may be conducive to maintain that Tranquility, Plenty and Honour, with which we are at preſent bleſſed.

R. FREEMAN.

IT is uſually objected to Authors, that their Practice contradicts their Principles, and that their own Conduct is ſullied with the Deformity of Vice while they recommend to others the Beauty of Virtue. I muſt confeſs, this is too often the Caſe. But what ſhall we ſay to a certain Set of Gentlemen, who tell us, that Virtue and Vice are meer Sounds, that there is no real Diſtinction between Right and Wrong, and that we are all Wolves by Nature and would devour one another if we durſt. And yet ſome of thoſe very Men who preach up ſuch monſtrous Doctrines, in other reſpects live up to the ſtricteſt Rules of Virtue. I will not take upon me to account for ſuch an extraordinary Phænomenon in Morals; but thus far may venture to aſſert, that thoſe Gentlemen, without deſigning any Injury to their Neighbours, are the moſt dangerous Enemies of the Neighbourhood, by furniſhing Arguments to Villains enclin'd to deſtroy it.

Beſides, the Example of ſuch viciouſly virtuous Philoſophers, greatly influences ill-diſpos'd and wavering Minds: the former are confirmed in their evil Inclinations, and the latter boldly break thro' the ſacred Pale that ſevers Virtue from Vice, when they are told by Men univerſally eſteemed, that it's only a Cobweb. --- Theſe are Characters that have fallen under my Obſervation, otherwiſe I ſhould never have believed they could have exiſted.

Mr. *Hobbes*, whom I occaſionally mention'd in a former Paper, ſpent a great part of his Life in forging Arguments to prove, that Man is naturally an unſociable voracious Creature: Yet he himſelf was a harmleſs inoffenſive Animal, and ſo great a Lover of Society, that he could not truſt himſelf alone and in the Dark without Company.

He took a great deal of Pains to ſhew, that all our Movements were cauſed by an invincible *Neceſſity*; which he glaringly contradicted, by forming a glorious Scheme of Arbitrary Power. Elſe, pray what occaſion for this mighty Pother about Government? Or, is your Prince alone entitled to a Free Will, and are the Subjects only Machines? If Mankind are moved in an eternal Orb by an unavoidable Succeſſion of Cauſes, was it not the heighth of Impertinence in you, Sir, to endeavour to puſh us out of our Sphere?

It's evident that Self-Preſervation is an Inſtinct implanted in every living Creature, and that we are all born with Inclinations that prompt us not only to preſerve but to advance our Happineſs. Then it muſt be allow'd, that Aſſociations are form'd in purſuance to the Dictates of this natural Diſpoſition. Perhaps it will be objected, that we only aſſociate in a View of Preying on one another. But that diabolical Paſſion could not be gratifyed, if there were not Men to prey upon; and the Objection ſerves to prove, that the Bad as well as the Good naturally love to join in Society.

Men, poſſeſſed with a falſe Ambition, are not content, except they can ſoar above and domineer over their Equals. Indeed Ambition is laudable when rightly directed, and a Deſire to excel one another in virtuous Actions is praiſeworthy, and helps to advance univerſal Happineſs: But can it be fairly inferred, that becauſe this neceſſary Inclination of outvying one another has puſhed ſome Men to commit the greateſt Extravagancies, therefore all the reſt are neceſſarily lead to tread in the ſame Steps. However, allowing that the State of Nature is a State of War, which implies a natural Equality, I preſume I have as much Right to repel Wrongs, as another has to impoſe 'em. Yet ſay the *Hobbiſts*, it is our Intereſt to ſubmit to be governed by the Will of one Man. I would feign ask theſe Gentlemen, how they came by ſuch a ſocial Affection? Whence all this Tenderneſs for their Fellow-Creatures? It cannot be Hypocriſy, as they have openly declared themſelves to be Villains in grain. It muſt therefore proceed from a natural irreſiſtible Impulſe.

But then it is farther urged, that if we give Way to the Dictates of Nature, we ſhall make fine Work on't. This is only a Bugbear, if we do not miſtake the Meaning of the Word, for human Nature is a Compound of two Qualities, the rational and the ſenſitive. The Paſſions rouſe us up to Action, and Reaſon is given us to direct the Courſe. But what ſeems reaſonable to one, appears ſometimes in a different Light to another. Admitted. It only proves that Men may have different Ideas of a Thing that really exiſts.

Now I define virtuous Actions to be thoſe, which have a Tendency to promote the Happineſs of Mankind; and by Conſequence we have a Standard to diſtinguiſh good from bad; which Argument is concluſive, unleſs it be replyed, that all Manner of Actions are equally indifferent; and then it neceſſarily follows, that the Characters of *Nero* and *Aurelius* are equally amiable, and that *Louis le grand*, who ſacrificed Millions to his Glory, was as good a Man as *Naſſau*, that ſaved us from his Fury.

Publick Spirit takes in the whole Circle of Virtues. This was the Spirit that animated our glorious Deliverer King *William*, when he ſet us free from Popery and Chains. It's moſt conſpicuous in a Country where Liberty reigns. Tho' it ſometimes borders on Licentiouſneſs, it's Inconveniencies are ſmall, compared to the dire Effects of Tyranny. I would rather live in *Athens* under a Democracy, than in any unlimited Monarchy whatſoever. In the firſt I ſhould have all my Fellow Citizens for my Judges, and in the laſt my Life and Property would depend on the Breath of a ſingle Man, governed by Caprice. *Nero* put Myriads to Death for his Diverſion; and *Alexander* at the Inſtigation of *Thais*, a drunken Whore, burnt the fineſt City in *Aſia*.

Tho' Democracy is the worſt Sort of Republicks, yet the *Athenians*, while they remained under that Government, were glorious and flouriſhing. Their little City produced a greater Number of illuſtrious Men in a few Centuries, than all the vaſt tyrannical Empires ever did ſince the Creation of the World. They were courted and feared by the moſt potent Kings, and they carried the Arts and Sciences to a greater Perfection than ever was known before or ſince. The Republick of *Sparta* was yet on a more ſolid Foundation. For the Space of 800 Years the Sound of an Enemy's Trumpet never reached their Walls. All this was owing to Liberty, which they juſtly eſteemed more than Life; for what are they now? almoſt ſunk beneath Humanity, groaning under the bleſſed Weight of arbitrary Power.

If we take a Survey of *France*, we ſhall not find them in a much better Condition. The Poor half ſtarved Devils are daily at Work to ſupply the Luxuries of an infamous Court, and to ſupport Armies kept on Foot to oppreſs them. The Soldiers and Tax-gatherers are generally eſteemed to amount to a Million. What a Load muſt this be to a Nation that are obliged to maintain ſo many idle Drones, who ſuck the Blood of their own Countrymen? It's a ſcandal to human Nature.

Upon the Whole, I conclude, that he, who endeavours to introduce his own Will, as a Law, is the greateſt Enemy to Mankind; and that thoſe who oppoſe ſuch arbitrary Attempts, are the greateſt Friends to their Fellow-Creatures.

Z.

London, Feb. 14. Sir *Robert Walpole* continues ſo ill of the Gout, that it is not known when he will be able to attend the Service of his Country in Parliament.

Letters from *Leghorn* confirm the Expectation of an approaching General Pacification, an Expreſs being arrived there from the Court of *Spain*, with Orders to ſuſpend Working at the Fortifications of that City, and inſtead thereof to provide a large Quanty of Biſcuit; by which it is judged, the Troops are ſoon to be ſhipped off for their return to *Spain*.

It is adviſed from *Warſaw*, that Count *Tarlo*, Palatine of *Lublin*, and Mr. *de Solubob*, great Treaſurer of *Lithuania*, who

who were King *Staniſlaus*'s firmeſt Friends in the Time of his Proſperity, have made their Submiſſion to King *Auguſtus*. And it is ſaid they are to make an Accommodation for all the *Poliſh* Lords, who were formerly in the ſame Intereſt, and who by the Anſwer they have lately returned to the *French* Miniſter's Memorial, ſeem inclin'd to relinquiſh every thing but the old eſtabliſhed Laws and Conſtitutions of the Kingdom. K. *Staniſlaus* himſelf will leave *Koningsberg* the beginning of next Month, and proceed directly for *Lorrain*, without going into *Poland* at all.

They write from *Vienna*, that his Imperial Majeſty, upon the preſſing Solicitations of the French Court, and other Princes, has at length agreed to all that the King of *Spain* deſired of him, being reſolved, in order to remove all Obſtacles to a general Peace, to give his Catholick Majeſty all poſſible Security, both with reſpect to his own Intereſt, and the Concerns of the King of *Sicily* his Son; ſo that it is expected his Catholick Majeſty will no longer refuſe his Acceſſion to the Preliminary Articles, nothing now remaining to be adjuſted but the Form in which the Powers of *Europe* are to acknowledge *Don Carlos* for the King of the two *Sicilies*, and in what manner they ſhall guaranty to him the peaceable Poſſeſſion of the ſame, whether they do it by virtue of the Right of Conqueſt, or under the Denomination of States yielded up to that Prince, in Exchange for his paternal Inheritances.

It is ſaid an Expreſs is arriv'd at Paris from Koningsberg, with Advice, that on 18th of laſt Month, King Staniſlaus, in a ſolemn manner, ſign'd his Abdication of the Crown of Poland; and that ſome days after, the ſame was approved of by all the Poliſh Lords of the Confederacy of Dzikow; which is a farther ſign that the deſirable Criſis of a General Peace all over *Europe* it at hand.

On the ſixth of *Feb.* there was a general Council held at St. James's, when his Majeſty was pleaſed to declare the intended Marriage of his Royal Highneſs the Prince of *Wales*, with the Princeſs of *Saxe-Gotha*, and a Meſſage was ſent next Day to both Houſes of Parliament to acquaint them there-with.

The Number of Sea-men imployed laſt Year we hear, will be reduced to 15,000, and that moſt of theſe will be diſcharged as ſoon as the Peace is concluded and Sir *John Norris* recalled home.

New-York, *April* 19. Yeſterday arrived here Capt. Compton in the Sea-Horſe Man of War, who brings a Letter from Robert Hunter Morris of the 3d of Jan. laſt, in which he writes to the following purpoſe.

'By this conveyance, or ſome other via Virginia, our 'Friends will receive two Orders of Council, which they are 'to be careful in ſerving on his Excellency in Perſon; the 'one is for to anſwer the Petition of Mr. Van Dam, the 'other is to anſwer the Complaint about the Albany Deed; 'they will alſo receive the Report and Approbation in my 'Father's favour. I have been particular to Lewis in my 'laſt to him upon my Fathers Tryal.

'This Day before my Fathers Hearing, the D-- of N---, 'ſent by Sr. C--- W--- Secretary, to let my Father know, '*that he would join with Sr. C---, in asking the Government of 'New-Jerſey of the King, if he would put off the Hearing, and 'Drop the Complaint againſt the* Governor, To which my Fa'ther Anſwered. *That if he was reſtored, the Chief Juſtice'ſhip would then be in his own Diſpoſal, and poſſibly the Govern'ment of* New-Jerſey, *would be of more worth to him than that; 'But as to the Complaints againſt Mr.* Cosby, *they were what he 'was entruſted with by the Country, and would not drop them to 'be made Governor of* Ireland.

'They have ſince made him another Offer, without an'nexing any Conditions to it, which is, *to make him one of the 'Aſſiſtant* Judges *here*; This is what I think he can by no 'Means accept of; Becauſe he muſt continue in England, 'and ſend for his Family over, which I believe he will 'hardly do.

'I told you in my laſt that Capt. Warren had the pro'miſe of the Boſton Station; he is ſince Commiſſioned for 'the Squirell, and lies at Woollwich, to get Men. *I believe 'he will bring us over.*

N. B. The Orders, Report and Approbation, and Letters mentioned in the above, are none of them as yet come to Hand.

Cuſtom-Houſe, New-York, April 19. *Entred In.*

A. Mansfield from Jamaica, J. Thomas from Saltortuga, A. Eight, from Coracoa. *Entred Out.* T. Hill, for Lisbon, W. Tucker for Antigua, A Mansfield, for Jamaica.

Cleared. E. Seymour to Antigua.

PHILADELPHIA, *April* 22.

Thurſday laſt a Guſt or Hurricane paſs'd thro' the Country a few Miles to the Northward of this City, and did great Damage at *Plymouth*, *Abington*, and other Places, where abundance of Trees are torn up by the Roots, Fences ruined, and ſeveral Barns and Houſes blown down. During the Storm, there fell a large Shower of Hailſtones, ſome of which were meaſured and found as big as Pigeon's Eggs.

Cuſtom-Houſe, PHILADELPHIA, *Entred In.*

Sloop Monimia, George Fox, from South-Carolina.
Scooner Iſaac & Murry, Duncan Murry, from Maryland.
Sloop Amity, Henry Todd, from Bermuda.

Entred Out.

Scooner Deliverance, John Cornet, for Boſton.
Ship Eliz. & Dorothy, William Sutton, for London.
Ship Lancaſhire Gally, John Howell, for Antigua.

Cleared.

Sloop Endeavour, Michael Dalton, to Boſton.
Scooner Chriſtiana, John Rice, to South-Carolina.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

For LONDON, directly,

THE Ship *Elizabeth* and *Dorothy*, *William Sutton Maſter*, will Sail in five or ſix Weeks, for Freight or Paſſage, agree with *Matthias Aſpdin*, near the Court-houſe, or with the ſaid Maſter on board the ſaid Ship at *William Fiſbourn's* Wharfe.

Philadelphia, *April* 22. 1736.

On Monday next will be publiſhed;

THE Charge Delivered from the Bench to the Grand Inqueſt, at a Court of *Oyer* and *Terminer* and General Goal-Delivery, held for the City and County of *Philadelphia*, *April* 13. 1736. By the Honourable *James Logan*, Eſq; chief Judge of the Province of *Pemſylvania*. Printed and Sold by *B. Franklin*.

THE *Subſcribers to the Library in* Philadelphia *are advertiſed, that* Monday *the* 3d *of* May *enſuing, at Two in the Afternoon, is the Time appointed for the Choice of Directors and a Treaſurer for the ſucceeding Year, and for making the fourth annual Payment, at the Houſe of* John Roberts *in* High-Street. Joſeph Breintnall, *Secr.*

To be SOLD,

THE Plantation late of *David Lloyd*, *Eſq*; *deceaſed, pleaſantly ſcituated upon the River* Delaware, *adjoining to the Town of* Cheſter, *containing* 200 *Acres of Land, about* 60 *Acres or more cleared, and about* 25 *Acres of it good Meadow. Two large Orchards of choice Fruit ſufficient in a bearing Year to make* 3 *or* 400 *Barrels of Cyder. A good new Stone-Houſe well finiſh'd, four Rooms on a Floor, with good Cellars. A Kitchin, Brew-houſe, Pantry and Dairy behind it, with Chambers over for Servants Lodgings. Alſo a large Store-houſe with a Loft over and Cellar under it. A large Cyder-houſe, with an Apple-Mill, and two Cyder Preſſes. A new Coach-houſe, good Stables and Cow-houſes, a Good Barn, and ſeveral Barracks for Hay, all in good Repair. Whoever has a mind to Purchaſe may apply to* Grace Lloyd, *living upon the ſaid Plantation.*

ALL Perſons indebted to *Nicholas Reddiſh* and *Alexander Paxton*, Sadlers in *Philadelphia*, are deſired forthwith to pay their reſpective Debts, they having broken up Partnerſhip. *Reddiſh & Paxton.*

N. B. *The Trade is ſtill carried on at the ſame Shop, where all Perſons may be ſupplied with all ſorts of Saddles and Sadlery Ware as uſual; alſo Stoughton's Bitter, Poyntz's Elixir, and Baker's Powder for the Teeth, by* Nicholas Reddiſh.

PHILADELPHIA: Printed by B. FRANKLIN, at the New Printing-Office near the Market. *Price* 10 *s.* a Year.

Where Advertiſements are taken in, and BOOK-BINDING is done reaſonably, in the beſt Manner.